



Serial No.: 09/683,417  
Attorney Docket No.: F-428

Patent

**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 3600**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: ) Attorney Docket No.: F-428  
Denis J. Stemmle ) Customer No.: 919  
Serial No.: 09/683,417 )  
Confirmation No. 2989 ) Examiner: MILLER, WILLIAM L.  
Filed: December 24, 2001 ) Group Art Unit: 3677  
 ) Date: March 24, 2006

Title: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DECONTAMINATING MAIL**

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO BOX 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the January 24, 2006 Final Office Action ("Office Action"). A response is due April 24, 2006 and this initial response is filed before two months after the mailing of the Final Office Action. See MPEP 714.13. Entry of the following amendment and consideration of the enclosed remarks are respectfully requested. The Amendments are submitted solely to place the present application in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal.

The following sections are enclosed:

1. Amendments to the specification;
2. Amendments to the Drawings;
3. Amendments to the claims; and
4. Remarks.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO BOX 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, On March 24, 2006 (Date of Deposit)

Signature

George M. Macdonald Name of Registered Rep.

March 24, 2006

Date